

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02

DHA-02 /059 W

-----180857Z 104345 /17

P R 180822Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2731

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2217

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT KS

SUBJ: FIRST E.M. NINE TRIAL SESSION HELD FOR THREE SNU STUDENTS

REF: SEOUL 9681

1. ON MARCH 18, SEOUL DISTRICT COURT HELD FIRST TRIAL SESSION FOR THREE SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (SNU) STUDENTS CHARGED WITH VIOLATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. NINE. STUDENTS ARE ALLEGED TO HAVE PLANNED AND PARTICIPATED IN DECEMBER 8 DEMONSTRATION AT SNU IN WHICH THEY CRITICIZED YUSHIN CONSTITUTION AND DEMANDED LIFTING OF E.M. NINE. IN ADDITION TO SHOUTING SLOGANS, STUDENTS ATTEMPTED TO DISTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY 300 "SAVE THE NATION DECLARATION" LEAFLETS TO GATHERING OF 100 TO 200 FELLOW STUDENTS AT SNU LIBRARY. THREE MEN CHARGED ARE SENIOR SNU LAW STUDENTS YI PON-YONG, PAK SOK-UN, AND PAEK KYE-MUN.

2. ALTHOUGH COURT ORIGINALLY REQUIRED ALL TRIAL OBSERVERS TO SHOW TICKETS, AFTER DEFENSE PROTESTED THIS MEASURE, JUDGE CONCURRED AND ALLOWED FORTY-MAN CAPACITY COURTROOM TO BE FILLED. PROCEEDINGS WERE BRIEF WITH DEFENDANTS ADMITTING THEIR ACTIONS BUT DECLARING NUREMBERG CONFIDENTIAL

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DEFENSE THAT ONE "NEED ONLY OBEY PROPER LAWS." NEXT SESSION IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 25.

3. AS DEMONSTRATIONS GO, THIS ONE WAS PARTICULARLY SMALL. MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SOURCES NOTE THAT ONE DEFENDANT IS TOPFLIGHT LAW SCHOLAR, HOWEVER, AND THUS WELL KNOWN. WHILE ROK EVIDENTLY WISHED TO IGNORE OTHER STUDENTS WHO

JOINED IN DEMONSTRATION, IT APPARENTLY FELT COULD NOT IGNORE
SUCH A PROMINENT CAMPUS RINGLEADER.
STERN

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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